

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for power control in a communication system employing a Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel (DSCH) and a Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel (FACH), comprising:

applying power control on the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel;

deriving power control information from the power control ~~[[on]]~~ applied to the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel; and

applying to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel the derived power control information from the power control ~~[[on]]~~ applied to the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel in order to produce power control on the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein deriving power control information from the power control on the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel comprises deriving power control information from a radio network control power control function.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein deriving power control information from the power control on the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel comprises deriving power control information from a base station power control function.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein deriving power control information from the power control on the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel comprises deriving power control information from transport format combination set selection.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein applying power control information to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel comprises scheduling a plurality of Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channels in dependence on the derived power control information.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein scheduling comprises scheduling the plurality of Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channels based on a signal-to-interference difference power cost calculation.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein scheduling comprises scheduling the plurality of Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channels based on fixed signal/interference values.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein scheduling comprises scheduling the plurality of Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channels based on dynamically updated signal/interference values.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claim 1 wherein applying power control information to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel comprises queueing and serving of mobile stations with similar power requirements on a same Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel at the same time.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein applying power control information to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel comprises grouping mobile stations with similar power requirements on a same Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of applying power control information to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel comprises grouping mobile stations with similar power requirements in a same scheduling interval of a same Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the system is a time division duplex communication system.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the system comprises a UMTS wireless system.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the system comprises a 3GPP system.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for power control in a communication system employing a Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel (DSCH) and a Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel (FACH), the apparatus comprising:

means for applying power control on the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel;

means for deriving power control information from the power control ~~[[on]]~~ applied to the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel; and

means for applying to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel the derived power control information from the power control ~~[[on]]~~ applied to the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel in order to produce power control on the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for deriving power control information from the power control on the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel comprises means for deriving power control information from a network control power control function.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for deriving power control information from the power control on the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel comprises means for deriving power control information from a base station power control function.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for deriving power control information from the power control on the Downlink Shared ~~Control~~ Channel comprises means for deriving power control information from transport format combination set selection.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for applying power control information to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel comprises means for scheduling a plurality of Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channels in dependence on the derived power control information.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the means for scheduling comprises means for scheduling the plurality of Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channels based on signal/interference difference power cost calculation.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the means for scheduling comprises means for scheduling the plurality of Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channels based on fixed signal/interference values.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the means for scheduling comprises means for scheduling the plurality of Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channels based on dynamically updated signal/interference values.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for applying power control information to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel comprises means for queueing and serving of mobile stations with similar power requirements on a same Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel at the same time.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for applying power control information to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel comprises means for grouping mobile stations with similar power requirements on a same Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for applying power control information to the Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel comprises means for grouping mobile stations with similar power requirements in a same scheduling interval of a same Forward Access ~~Control~~ Channel.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the system is a time division duplex communication system.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the system comprises a UMTS wireless system.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the system comprises a 3GPP system.

29. (Previously Presented) A network control element comprising the apparatus claim 16.

30. (Previously Presented) A base station element comprising the apparatus of claim 17.